

Filed for intro on 05/22/2002

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1104  
By McDonald

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Mrs. Ola Roberson on  
winning the 2002 Mary Catherine Strobel  
Volunteer of the Year Award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to  
specially recognize those estimable volunteers who have dedicated themselves to improving the  
quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Ola Roberson is one such exemplary person who evinces the greatest  
integrity and probity in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Roberson has been named the 2002 Mary Catherine Strobel Volunteer  
of the Year Award for her exemplary efforts with the Sumner Regional Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, this prestigious award is named for Mary Catherine Strobel in honor of her  
outstanding efforts to help the sick, poor, homeless and disadvantaged of Nashville; and

WHEREAS, throughout her thirty-four years of volunteer service in the health care  
industry, Mrs. Roberson has embodied the selfless and caring attitude of Ms. Strobel; and

HJR1104

01507985

WHEREAS, a native of Castalian Springs, Mrs. Roberson's mother instilled the value of selflessness in Mrs. Roberson at an early age; her mother continually reminded her to "train for service"; and

WHEREAS, in 1922, Ola Roberson graduated from high school and, in 1926, she became the first African American from Sumner County to earn a collegiate degree; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated servant of the community, Mrs. Roberson diligently served as an extraordinary educator for a remarkable 41 years before retiring in 1968; and

WHEREAS, soon after retiring in 1968, Mrs. Roberson became one of the original members of the volunteer organization the Gray Ladies, which later became known as the Pink Ladies; she also served with alacrity as the Chairperson of the Sunshine Committee; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Roberson has garnered numerous awards and honors for her outstanding commitment to her community, including the 1981 Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award, the Gallatin News Examiner 1990 Citizen of the Year Award and the 1995 Mary Catherine Strobel Volunteer of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, a devout member of the First Baptist Church, Mrs. Roberson has served as a Sunday School Teacher, as President of the Missionary Society and as a writer of Sunday School literature; and

WHEREAS, her many accomplishments aside, Mrs. Roberson was fortunate to share many years of love and companionship with her late husband, Idyle Roberson; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Roberson's remarkable success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to her unwavering reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and her uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Ola Roberson evinces the sterling character and stalwart determination that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, an extremely giving person, she epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, Ola Roberson is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor and commend Mrs. Ola Bate Roberson on winning the 2002 Mary Catherine Strobel Volunteer of the Year Award and express our heartfelt thanks for her many years of outstanding service to the people of the State of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.